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From: CN=Valentina Cabrera-Stagno/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US

Sent: Mon 7/23/2012 9:06:23 PM

Subject: Fw: CVJV Letter to Deputy Secretary Meral re: BDCP
[CVJV letter BDCP Jerry Meral July 2012.pdf](#)
robert_shaffer@fws.gov
centralvalleyjointventure.org
 (embedded image)

Here's a letter from the Joint Venture re: BDCP...I pasted the meatiest snippet below.

--Valentina

Recommendation: We respectfully recommend that all Delta-related planning efforts including BDCP and the work of the Delta Stewardship Council incorporate the following goal, principles and objectives:
 GOAL: Contribute to the attainment of the acreage, water, and bird population goals set forth by the Central Valley Joint Venture Implementation Plan.

PRINCIPLE 1: Avoid Detrimental Impacts to Wetland Water Supply. Ensure that BDCP activities: 1) enhance, and do not directly or indirectly compromise the ability to provide full Level 4 and Level 2 water deliveries to federal refuges, state wildlife areas and private wetlands identified in the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575) and aid in meeting this existing statutory obligation; and 2) do not negatively impact the water supplies of private and public wetlands, including agricultural wetlands, in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys.

- Action 1.1: Within BDCP's NEPA/CEQA processes, analyze water transfer activities that are within the scope of BDCP specifically for potential adverse impacts to CVPIA refuge water supplies and ensure full mitigation for these impacts.

PRINCIPLE 2: Mitigate for Impacts to Brackish and Freshwater Wetland-associated Birds and Bird Habitat. BDCP actions that result in losses of brackish and freshwater wetlands (including seasonal, permanent, and managed wetlands, mud flats, and winter flooded corn and rice areas meeting CVJV Plan criteria) should be fully mitigated consistent with the Natural Communities Conservation Planning Act of 2003 (Fish and Game Code 2800 et seq). Mitigation actions should:

- Action 2.1: Place mitigation wetlands within the Delta on site and in kind to the maximum extent possible but otherwise within the Central Valley.
- Action 2.2: Plan and construct mitigation wetlands near existing wetland complexes whenever possible².
- Action 2.3: Fund conservation easements for bird-compatible agriculture that contributes to meeting the CVJV goals.
- Action 2.4: Enhance existing wetlands and agriculture to improve their productivity and quality for birds.

PRINCIPLE 3: Use Adaptive Management to Improve Mitigation Outcomes. Implement a monitoring and assessment program at all wetland mitigation sites and at regional scales to assess the effectiveness of mitigation actions. Mitigation actions should include clear and measurable goals and objectives.

- Action 3.1: Establish an independent science advisory panel to assess the effectiveness of wetland mitigation actions. Include representation from the CVJV. This panel could be part of the Delta Stewardship Council's Independent Science Board.
- Action 3.2: Develop site level mitigation monitoring and assessment for shorebirds, waterfowl and their habitats using established monitoring protocols so that data generated are compatible with existing monitoring programs (e.g. Pacific Flyway Shorebird Survey³, Mid-winter Waterfowl Survey).
- Action 3.3: Develop and/or support maintenance plans that contain performance standards to ensure long term sustainability of sites.
- Action 3.4: If mitigation outcomes are deemed by the advisory panel to be insufficient, make sure there is capacity to adapt the mitigation program to meet the objectives.

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----- Forwarded by Valentina Cabrera-Stagno/R9/USEPA/US on 07/23/2012 02:02 PM -----

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Cc: <bnelson/@nrdc.org bnelson>
Date: 07/23/2012 01:39 PM
Subject: CVJV Letter to Deputy Secretary Meral re: BDCP

All,

Please see the attached letter to Gerald Meral, Deputy Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency. The letter

was approved by the CVJV Board today.

Best Regards,

Bob

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